Call

ER 9-020

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT:

Meeting With Senator Russell on 1 February 1957

The following are suggested points of discussion with Senator Russell:

- A. The Building. Particularly in view of the fact that it has been discussed with other Committee leaders, I think Senator Russell should be given a frank picture of where we stand on our building, and that we should get his personal reaction as to whether an attempt should be made to get additional funds. The Director will recall that Senator Russell counseled against any effort to seek supplemental authorization and appropriation late in the last Session of the Congress, because he felt that it would precipitate further Floor debate on CIA generally.
- B. Personnel. Senator Russell has often stated that our case before the Congress would be infinitely easier to sell if we could show a trend toward reduction of personnel. I would urge that the Director discuss the personnel problem generally and offer to brief the Armed Services Subcommittee on the distribution and functions of Agency personnel at a further hearing. Red White is now working on a functional breakdown which could serve as the basis for such a briefing.
- C. Committee Meetings and the Mansfield Resolution. Senator Russell may have some views on whether a movement is likely to take place in the Senate this year on the Joint Committee issue. I suggest that he be informed that 17 Resolutions have been introduced in the House thus far, and that Mr. Vinson is somewhat concerned about the possibility of House action. (We might mention the current problem with the House Rules Committee). In this connection, it would be helpful if the Senator would convene an early meeting of his subcommittee, and hold a number of these meetings during the current Session.

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- E. CIA Appearances Before Other Committees. The Director may want to flag our problem of requests for briefings by various congressional committees, such as Foreign Relations and Foreign Affairs and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (on matters other than atomic energy developments). The Director will recall that Senator Symington, evidently on the basis of word received from an Atomic Energy Committee member, recently asked Bob Amory if he could be briefed on bombers, missiles, etc. Senator Russell's views on the policy in these matters would be helpful, and we may also be able to find out his plans on the Symington Subcommittee.
- F. Legislation. We are now in the negotiation stage with the Budget Bureau on the substance of our career legislation proposals. We are also trying to determine how many of the things we want to do, assuming Budget Bureau clearance, could be done by "stretching" present authorities. It would be useful to get Senator Russell's views on whether we should or should not seek legislation, having in mind Mr. Vinson's position. If the Senator feels the same way, we should state for the record that we will probably require some expression of Congressional sanction for a liberal interpretation of our present law if we hope to get GAO acquiescence.

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cc: DDCI